

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request and that groups I and II be combined. Both groups require a modified nucleotide, therefore, both are tightly interwoven. Additionally, a single search should be capable of addressing both the compositions and the method of using the composition. Therefore, Applicants request modification of the restriction requirement so that groups I and II can be prosecuted jointly.

However, if the Examiner maintains the restriction requirement in its present form, Applicant elects group II for prosecution in this application. The claims are labeled accordingly. If the Examiner withdraws the restriction as to group I and II, Applicants respectfully authorize the Examiner, by Examiner's amendment, to alter the withdrawn status of claims 1-6 and 17-18 to original status.

Applicants have added new claims 21-47 all depending either from claims 7, 13 or 15. Applicants are enclosing a check in the amount of \$135 for the additional claim charges. If the Examiner combines groups I and II, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge the additional claim charges to Deposit Account No. 501518. The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501518.

If you have any questions, please call me at 713.977.7000.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert W. Strozier, Reg. No. 34,024

Date: June 30, 2004